

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Mark Blasdel, on January 12, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)  
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Fred Thomas (R), Sen. Scott Sales (R), Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch  
Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 53, 1/9/2017; SB 85, 1/9/2017

Executive Action: SB 10, SB 53

00:00:46 Chairman Blasdel

**HEARING ON SB 53**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:38 Sen. Llew Jones (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 53, Repeal biodiesel production incentive.

[EXHIBIT\(tas09a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tas09a02\)](#)

00:03:17 Chairman Blasdel

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:03:45 Sen. Jones

00:03:55 Chairman Blasdel

**HEARING ON SB 85**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:04:05 Sen. Mary Moe (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 85, Submitting a 6-mill levy for support of the Montana University System to voters.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:08:05 Clayton Christian, commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

00:08:39 Paul Tuss, chairman, Montana Board of Regents

00:09:34 Andy Bixler, student lobbyist, Montana Associated Students

00:11:01 Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association and Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

00:11:49 Mike Halligan, Washington Companies

00:12:58 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:14:08 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

00:15:10 Hal Stearns, self

00:17:17 Ed Bartlett, lawyer and lobbyist, Billings Chamber of Commerce and Bozeman Chamber of Commerce

00:17:59 Sheila Stearns, president, University of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:18:51 Sen. Barrett  
00:20:00 Mr. Stearns, self  
00:23:57 Chairman Blasdel  
00:24:24 Sen. Moe  
00:24:39 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:24:59 Sen. Moe  
00:29:58 Chairman Blasdel

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 10**

00:30:44 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Barrett moved that **SB 10 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. McClafferty voted by proxy. Sen. S. Sales and Sen. Thomas were excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 53**

00:31:22 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Barrett moved that **SB 53 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. McClafferty voted by proxy. Sen. S. Sales and Sen. Thomas were excused.

00:31:45 Chairman Blasdel

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:47 a.m.

---

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

oh

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tas09aad.pdf](#))